

Message Text

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO EXIMBANK

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TAGS: BTRA, BEXP, YO
SUBJ: VISIT OF YUGOSLAV BUSINESS DELEGATION AND USYEC MEETING

REF: BELGRADE 2103

1. PILIPOVIC OF YUGOSLAV CHAMBER OF ECONOMY INFORMED ECON COUNS THAT LONG AWAITED VISIT OF YUGOSLAV BUSINESS DELEGATION IS NOW SET FOR SEPTEMBER 22, 1978. US ORGANIZERS OF VISIT WHICH IS CONSIDERED NONGOVERNMENTAL ARE USYEC AND YUGOSLAV CHAMBER OF ECONOMY, BOTH BELGRADE AND NEW YORK/CHICAGO OFFICES. ILIJA VAKIC, PRESIDENT OF YUGOSLAV CHAMBER OF ECONOMY, WILL LEAD DELEGATION WHICH, AT THIS TIME, INCLUDES DIRECTORS OF THIRTY ENTERPRISES LOCATED THROUGHOUT COUNTRY AND REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVERAL REPUBLICAN AND PROVINCIAL CHAMBERS OF ECONOMY. UPON ARRIVAL IN UNITED STATES, DELEGATION WILL BREAK UP INTO FOLLOWING GROUPS FOR INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS: AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS (INCLUDING WINE), CHEMICALS AND NON-FERROUS METALS, FERROUS METALS AND METAL PRODUCTS, AND MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS (I.E. SPORTING EQUIPMENT, CLOTHING, AND OTHERS). LENGHT OF STAY IN US WILL BE AT LEAST TEN WORKING DAYS.

2. ECON COUNSELOR AGAIN OFFERED USG ASSISTNACE IN MAKING BUSINESS
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APPOINTMENTS AND COORDINATING VISIT ARRANGEMENTS BUT WAS TOLD THAT IT WAS NOW UNCERTAIN AS TO WHAT, IF ANY, HELP WOULD BE NEEDED SINCE USYEC WAS PLANNING ON DOING MOST OF THIS WORK. EXCEPTION IS PROGRAM FOR VAKIC WHO WILL SPLIT OFF FROM DELEGATION WHEN MEMBERS BEGIN THEIR COMPANY VISITS. HE WOULD LIKE ROUND OF OFFICIAL MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON WHICH, EMBASSY SUGGESTS, SHOULD INCLUDE DEPARTMENT AND USDOC AND POSSIBLY EXIMBANK AND OPIC.

3. REGARDING USYEC MEETING IN DUBROVNIK, PILIPOVIC SAID THAT OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION FROM YUGOSLAV SIDE HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED, THOUGH IT WAS EXPECTED THAT ONE OF NEW FEC VICE PRESIDENTS FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND SECRETARIES OF FINANCE AND FOREIGN TRADE WOULD ATTEND. ABOUT 200 YUGOSLAV BUSINESSMEN ARE BELIEVED TO BE PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE. ECON COUNSELOR CONFIRMED ATTENDANCE OF AMBASSADOR EAGLEBURGER, CHAIRMAN MOORE AND DEPUTY ASST SEC LUERS, BUT ADDED THAT USDOC REPRESENTATIVE HAD NOT YET BEEN DESIGNATED. PILIPOVIC WAS INFORMED THAT BOTH MOORE AND THE AMBASSADOR WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE DUBROVNIK ON TUESDAY, JUNE 6, FOR BEGINNING OF MOORE'S OFFICIAL VISIT. SINCE NEITHER WOULD BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE CONCLUDING PRESS CONFERENCE ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT ANOTHER OFFICIAL PRESS CONFERENCE BE HELD EARLIER IN THE WEEK WHICH WOULD FOCUS GENERALLY ON US-YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC RELATIONS. PILIPOVIC THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE IF US SIDE IS INTERESTED.

4. IN VIEW OF PAST POSTPONEMENTS EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT DEPARTMENT AND USDOC AWAIT CONFIRMATION THAT BUSINESS DELEGATION IS DEFINITELY COMING ON SEPTEMBER 22 BEFORE PROCEEDING TO ORGANIZE VAKIC PROGRAM. WHEN CONFIRMATION IS PROVIDED, WE WILL INFORM DEPARTMENT AND USDOC, AND OFFER SOME SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS.
EAGLEBURGER

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